

(7) CONCLUSION: *Romans 15:7-33; 16*

Welcome

- Christianity in Rome: Rom 1:1-17
- The letter as a whole: Rom 1-16
- Need of grace: Rom 1-4
- Gift of grace: Rom 5-8
- Jews and Gentiles: Rom 9-11
- Grace in practice: Rom 12:1-15:6
- **CONCLUSION: ROM 15:7-33; 16**
- Romans for today's church

Vocabulary: summary (15:7-12); amplification (15:13-29); pity (15:30-33)

Frames:

“Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.” (Romans 15:7)

“The God of peace be with all of you. Amen.” (Romans 15:33)

Rivets:

Rom. 15:5 May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with **one another**, in accordance with **Christ Jesus**, 6 so that together you may with one voice **glorify** the **God** and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Rom. 15:7 Welcome **one another**, therefore, just as **Christ** has welcomed you, for the **glory of God**.

(I) The overall rhetoric

The Structure of Romans: Letter and Persuasion

Letter Introduction

1:1-7

<i>verse</i>		<i>topic</i>
1:8-15	Introduction	Reasons for coming to Rome
1:16-17	Thesis	faith, justification, salvation, Jews and Gentiles
1:18-4:35	Proof 1	Faith: (root pist-), righteousness / Jews and Gentiles / faith and works.
5-8	Proof 2	Salvation: Sin, life, living, making alive, Christ
9-11	Proof 3	God's election of Jews and Gentiles
12:1-15:13	Proof 4	Life together in the community
15:14-33	Conclusion	Reasons for coming Rome

Letter Conclusion

16:1-23

Greetings

16:25-27

The Conclusion of the Persuasion

Matching the opening and the closing of the letter

Introduction [1:8-15 – all vv.]	Conclusion [15:14-33 – selected vv.]
<p><u>1:8</u> First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed throughout the world.</p>	<p><u>15:14</u> I myself feel confident about you, my brothers and sisters, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, and able to instruct one another.</p>
<p><u>1:9</u> For God, whom I serve with my spirit by announcing the gospel of his Son, is my witness that without ceasing I remember you always in my prayers, <u>10</u> asking that by God's will I may somehow at last succeed in coming to you.</p>	<p><u>15:30</u> I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in earnest prayer to God on my behalf,</p>
<p><u>1:11</u> For I am longing to see you so that I may share with you some spiritual gift to strengthen you – <u>12</u> or rather so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine.</p>	<p><u>15:32</u> so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and be refreshed in your company.</p>
<p><u>Rom. 1:13</u> I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that I have often intended to come to you (but thus far have been prevented), in order that I may reap some harvest among you as I have among the rest of the Gentiles.</p>	<p><u>Rom. 15:22</u> This is the reason that I have so often been hindered from coming to you.</p>
<p><u>Rom. 1:14</u> I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish <u>15</u> – hence my eagerness to proclaim the gospel to you also who are in Rome.</p>	<p><u>18</u> For I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me to win obedience from the Gentiles, by word and deed, <u>19</u> by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God, so that from Jerusalem and as far around as Illyricum I have fully proclaimed the good news of Christ.</p>

Romans 1:1-7

1 Paul,
a servant of Jesus Christ,

called to be an **apostle**,
set apart for the gospel of **God**,

2 **which** he promised beforehand through his prophets
in the *holy* scriptures,
3 **concerning** his **Son**,
 who was descended
 from David
 according to the flesh
4 and was declared to be **Son of God** with power
 according to the spirit of *holiness*
 by (from) resurrection from the dead,
 Jesus Christ our **Lord**,
5 **through** whom we have received grace and **apostleship**
to bring about the obedience of faith
among **all** the Gentiles for the sake of his name,
6 including yourselves who are **called** to belong to Jesus Christ,

7 To **all** **God's** beloved in Rome,
who are **called** to be *saints*:
Grace to you and peace from **God** our Father
and the **Lord**
Jesus Christ.

The closing of the Letter

Pointers for Prayer

1. Paul, already relatively old, is still full of plans and adventures, a great example of zeal to the end. What are my hopes and plans as a pastor?
2. Paul has no problem whatsoever with women in ministry. What is my experience? What are my hopes?
3. At the end, Paul is also anxious about his trip to Jerusalem — what are my anxieties today?
4. Finally, Paul close with a prayer, a doxology. If I were to write one today in my own words, how would I express it?